

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
Kazuhiro Saito)	
)	Art Unit: 1791
Serial No. 10/797,641)	
)	
Filed: March 10, 2004)	Examiner: Lee, Edmund H.
)	
For: Insert Molding Die And Method For)	
Molding Hollow Component)	Attorney Docket No.: 44471/298378

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office via EFS Web on February 20, 2008.

/Melody T. Wilson/
Melody T. Wilson

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the final Office Action dated November 28, 2007 in the patent application identified above, please reconsider the application in view of the appended remarks.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

REMARKS begin on page 4 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (Previously Presented) An insert molding die for a hollow component, comprising:
 - an upper die;
 - a lower die arranged under the upper die, wherein the upper die and the lower die forms a cavity which accommodates the hollow component and is charged with molten resin;
 - a plurality of upper-die pin members disposed on the upper die movably up and down, wherein the upper-die pin members hold the hollow component in the cavity;
 - upper-die urging means disposed on the upper die to urge the upper-die pin members downwardly so that the upper-die pin members project from the upper die by opening the upper die and the lower die and the upper-die pin members pressed into the upper die by closing the upper die and the lower die, the upper-die urging means including a first spring for urging a selected upper-die pin member downwardly and a second spring for urging the selected upper-die pin member upwardly, an urging force of the first spring being larger than that of the second spring;
 - a plurality of lower-die pin members disposed on the lower die movably up and down so as to oppose the upper-die pin members respectively, wherein the lower-die pin members hold the hollow component in the cavity in cooperation with the upper-die pin members to form a gap between the hollow component and the lower-die; and
 - lower-die urging means disposed on the lower die to urge the lower-die pin members upwardly so that the lower-die pin members project from the lower die by opening the upper die and the lower die and the lower-die pin members pressed into the lower die by closing the upper die and the lower die, the lower-die urging means including a third spring for urging a selected lower-die pin member upwardly and a fourth spring for urging the selected

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lower-die pin member downwardly, an urging force of the third spring being larger than that of the fourth spring.

2. – 4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The insert molding die of claim 1, wherein the upper die is provided with injection means adapted to inject molten resin into the cavity.

6. (Original) The insert molding die of claim 5, wherein the lower die is provided with another injection means adapted to inject molten resin into the cavity.

7. – 10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) The insert molding die of claim 1, wherein the selected lower-die pin member is provided with a locate pin for positioning the hollow component in the cavity.

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REMARKS

The foregoing amendment cancels Claims 2-4 and 7-10. Claims 1, 5, 6 and 11 are currently pending in this application, with Claim 1 being independent. For the reasons set forth below, Applicants believe that the rejection should be withdrawn and that the claims are in condition for allowance.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 3 AND 4 UNDER 35 U.S.C. 112

The Examiner rejected Claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. Claims 3 and 4 have been canceled to facilitate allowance of the present claims. Accordingly, the rejection is now moot.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner indicated that Claims 1, 2, 5, 6 and 11 are allowable. As mentioned above Claim 2 has been canceled. Accordingly, Claims 1, 5, 6 and 11 should be allowed.

CONCLUSION

This application should now be in condition for allowance, and the Applicants solicit a notice to that effect. If there are any issues that can be addressed via telephone, the Examiner is asked to contact the undersigned at 404.685.6799. No fees are believed due, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0855.

Respectfully submitted,

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